OTTER TAIL CORP
Form 4
August 12, 2008

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
ERICKSON JOHN D

(Last) (First) (Middle)

215 S CASCADE ST

(Street)

FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
OTTER TAIL CORP [OTTR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
08/11/2008

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

__X__ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
President & CEO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	08/11/2008		G (1)(2)	V	1,000 (3)	D	$ 0	84,788	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008		M		2,000	A	$ 19.1875	86,788	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008		M		5,000	A	$ 19.75	91,788	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008		S (1)(2)		300	D	$ 39.21	91,488	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008		S (2)		100	D	$ 39.22	91,388	D	

Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		600	D	$ 39.23	90,788	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		800	D	$ 39.24	89,988	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		200	D	$ 39.25	89,788	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		100	D	$ 39.26	89,688	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		100	D	$ 39.27	89,588	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		200	D	$ 39.28	89,388	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		1,700	D	$ 39.29	87,688	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		300	D	$ 39.32	87,388	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		100	D	$ 39.34	87,288	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		300	D	$ 39.36	86,988	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		300	D	$ 39.37	86,688	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		100	D	$ 39.4	86,588	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		600	D	$ 39.45	85,988	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		300	D	$ 39.47	85,688	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		300	D	$ 39.48	85,388	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		100	D	$ 39.5	85,288	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		100	D	$ 39.52	85,188	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		100	D	$ 39.54	85,088	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	S[(2)]		300	D	$ 39.55	84,788 [(4)]	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2008	G[(1)(5)]	V	1,000 [(3)]	A	$ 0	1,000	I	By Foundation
	08/11/2008	S[(1)(5)]		100	D	$ 40.15	900	I	

Common Stock									By Foundation
Common Stock	08/11/2008		S[(5)]	900	D	$ 40.16	0	I	By Foundation
Common Stock							4,981.8948	I	ESOP

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(*e.g.*, puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 19.1875	08/11/2008		M			2,000	02/23/2000[(6)]	02/23/2009	Common Stock	16,000
Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 19.75	08/11/2008		M			5,000	04/10/2001[(6)]	04/10/2010	Common Stock	25,000
Stock Options (right to buy)	$ 26.25							04/09/2002[(6)]	04/09/2011	Common Stock	75,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ERICKSON JOHN D 215 S CASCADE ST	X		President & CEO	

FERGUS FALLS, MN 56537-2801

Signatures

/s/ John D Erickson by Debra J Lill, Attorney-in-Fact	08/12/2008
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) All sales and gifts reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to Rule 10b5-1(c) trading plans.

(2) Trading Plan was adopted by the reporting person on 3/6/2008.

(3) These shares were gifted from the joint account with his wife through Merrill Lynch to The John and Kim Erickson Family Foundation, a non-profit charitable corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code also held with Merrill Lynch.

(4) Total direct holdings include shares jointly held with spouse through Merrill Lynch and shares acquired individually pursuant to Restricted Stock Awards and Performance Award distributions.

(5) Trading Plan was adopted by The John and Kim Erickson Family Foundation, a non-profit charitable corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code on 5/7/2008.

(6) Stock options vest in cumulative annual installments of 25% beginning the date shown.

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